

11 JUN 1949

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GENERAL

1. Imposed SC compromise on Israeli-Syrian armistice urged--
The US delegation at the UN, in commenting on possible lines of action if discussions break down on the Syrian-Israeli armistice, notes that the chief stumbling bloc in the negotiations is the intransigence of the Israelis and that the problem therefore is one of exerting sufficient pressure to make the Israelis accept a solution which a "reasonable majority opinion" believes best. The delegation considers that in the event of a breakdown it might be preferable to have UN Mediator Bunche report this failure to the Security Council and make a compromise proposal which, in his judgment, would meet the legitimate interests of both parties. The US representatives believe that if the SC called on both parties to accept such a proposal, Israel as a new UN member would find it difficult to refuse and Syria would probably be glad to accept.

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2. Israelis to withdraw troops from neutral zone--According to UN Mediator Bunche, the Israeli representative on the Mixed Armistice Commission has declared there has been a "misunderstanding" concerning the Israeli incursion into the western portion of UN neutral zone in Palestine and that the troops will be withdrawn. Bunche comments that he does not understand Israeli motives in seizing the neutral area, since such action obviously endangered their broader objectives, but expresses the view that it was "deliberately planned."

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